

the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "To amend the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 to provide for implementation of recommendations of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service contained in the Great Lakes Fishery Resources Restoration Study."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1481, the bill just passed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

KICKAPOO TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA FEDERAL INDIAN SERVICES RESTORATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2314) to restore Federal Indian services to members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County, Texas, to clarify United States citizenship status of such members, to provide trust land for the benefit of the Tribe, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2314

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Federal Indian Services Restoration Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. RESTORATION OF FEDERAL INDIAN SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County, Texas, shall be eligible for all Federal services and benefits furnished to members of federally-recognized tribes without regard to the existence of a reservation for the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma in Maverick County, Texas. In the case of Federal services available to members of federally-recognized tribes residing on or near a reservation, the members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Maverick County, Texas, shall be deemed to be residing on or near a reservation.

(b) COOPERATION WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT.—In providing services pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior (referred to hereafter in this Act as the "Secretary") and the head of each department and agency shall consult and cooperate with appropriate officials or agencies of the Mexican Government to the greatest extent possible to ensure that such services meet the special tricultural needs of the members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma residing in Texas. Such consultation and cooperation may include joint funding agreements between such agency or department of the United States and the appropriate agencies and officials of the Mexican Government.

(c) DISCLAIMER ON NEW APPROPRIATIONS.—(1) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to—

(A) constitute an independent authorization for the appropriation of funds for benefit of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, or

(B) result in the diminution of funding to any other federally recognized Indian tribe.

(2) The Secretary shall, upon request of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma and subject to the availability of appropriations, provide technical assistance to prevent duplication of services for members of any federally recognized tribe in Maverick County, Texas.

SEC. 3. LAND ACQUISITION.

(a) 45 ACRES.—Pursuant to section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 465), the Secretary may accept at least 45 acres of land held in fee by the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma in Maverick County, Texas, to be held in trust for the benefit of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

(b) ADDITIONAL LAND.—Pursuant to land acquisition authority under the Act of June 18, 1934 (25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.), the Secretary may accept in trust for the benefit of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma any additional land in Maverick County, Texas, acquired by the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

(c) NO LIMITATION OF AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the authority of the Secretary under section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 985).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) and the gentleman from California (Mr. MILLER), each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST).

(Mr. GILCHREST asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2314, the proposed Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Federal Indian Services Restoration Act of 1998 would restore Federal Indian services to members of the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma who reside in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following letters for the RECORD:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, September 18, 1998.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2314, a bill to provide certain benefits to the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma. I understand that the Committee on the Judiciary, which has Rule X jurisdiction over section 3 of H.R. 2314 providing certain immigration benefits to the tribe, requires more time to address properly the issues raised by that section.

However, I understand that the Committee on the Judiciary will not object if the Committee on Resources proceeds to the Floor with the bill with an amendment to strike section 3. This arrangement is acceptable to the Committee on Resources and the author of the bill and we will act accordingly.

Thank you for your cooperation and that of your staff, especially Daniel Freeman and Jim Wilon, in this effort.

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 11, 1998.

Re H.R. 2314—Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

Hon. DON YOUNG,
Chairman, Committee on Resources,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN YOUNG: I understand that the Committee on Resources wishes to proceed expeditiously to the floor with H.R. 2314, a bill to provide certain benefits to the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma. The Committee on the Judiciary has jurisdiction over Section 3 of the bill, which would provide certain immigration benefits to the tribe.

A number of important immigration issues are raised by Section 3 of the bill, and the Judiciary Committee has been working toward a global legislative solution of those issues for the Kickapoo Tribe and many other similarly situated Indian tribes. To that end, the Committee requested relevant information from the Justice Department's Office of Tribal Justice, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs on February 11, 1998. Unfortunately, much of the requested information has still not been provided, so the Committee is not yet prepared to craft an optimal legislative solution.

However, the Judiciary Committee would have no objection if the Resources Committee proceeded to the floor, on the suspension calendar, with a manager's amendment to H.R. 2314 with the Section 3 immigration provisions removed. Please let me know if this is acceptable.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. WATKINS) for an explanation of the bill.

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support and ask my colleagues on both sides to support this. I believe it has bipartisan bill support and understands the administration supports it.

In fact, H.R. 2314 rectifies disputes that have arisen over housing, medical and other social services for Kickapoos that are residing in Texas down in Maverick County. This will allow the services to be provided in many areas, and it is very much needed. These disputes have been discussed for a number of years.

The proposed legislation has been agreed upon by all parties involved. I know I have worked with several of them. I would just like to encourage the Members to support this bill under suspensions at this time.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, this is a bill which points out how differences in cultures make it difficult to legislate on a national level.

The Kickapoo tribe is a noted tribe which inhabited lands in the States of Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico. This free lifestyle has led to questions concerning the citizenship of tribal members and the eligibility of tribal members for Federal and State health, housing and social welfare programs.